



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

April 18, 2003

To: Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

MOTION TO SUPPORT SB 957 (McCLINTOCK) – TRANSPORTATION GRIDLOCK EMERGENCIES (ITEM NO. 21, AGENDA OF APRIL 22, 2003)

Item No. 21 on the April 22, 2003 Agenda is a motion by Supervisors Antonovich and Yaroslavsky to support SB 957 (McClintock), and to send a five signature letter of support for SB 957, and other efforts to end gridlock in our freeway system, to the Governor, the Senate President Pro Tem, the Speaker of the Assembly, the Senate and Assembly Republican leaders, the Chairs of both the Senate and Assembly Transportation Committees and members of the County's State legislative delegation.

As introduced on February 21, 2003, SB 957 would enact the Congestion Relief Act for the 21st Century, and would define a transportation gridlock emergency as a condition that requires extraordinary State action to relieve traffic congestion that presents a severe threat to the safety and economic well-being of any region. SB 957 authorizes the Governor to declare a state of emergency when any highway has an average daily vehicle delay that exceeds 3,000 vehicle hours per day. Also, the California Department of Transportation would be required to determine the average daily vehicle hours of delay for each highway in the State, rank each highway based on the average delay, and prepare an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature.

On February 1, 2000, your Board adopted a motion by Supervisor Antonovich to support AB 1776 (McClintock) which would have permitted the Governor to bypass Caltrans and expedite freeway construction when any stretch of freeway reached 3,000 hours of vehicle delay per day. However, your Board also went on record to oppose any amendment to AB 1776 that would give the Governor discretion to take away funding that is already programmed for other transportation projects. AB 1776 failed passage in the Assembly Transportation Committee.

The Department of Public Works recommends that the County support SB 957 if funding for other transportation projects is not adversely affected. **Support for SB 957 is consistent with prior Board policy if the bill is not amended to give the Governor discretion to take away funding for other projects.**

SB 957 is scheduled to be heard on April 29, 2003 in the Senate Transportation Committee. The measure is supported by AJM Engineering, Drivers for Highway Safety, California State Chapter of the National Motorist Association, Friends of Southern California's Highways, and Freedom on the Freeway. There is no opposition on record.

DEJ:GK
MAL:JL:MS:lm

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel